

Appl. No. 09/922,105
Amdt. Dated September 02, 2004
Response to Office action of June 09, 2004

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An ink distribution assembly for a page width ink jet printhead in the form of ~~at least one~~ a number of elongate printhead chip chips having sets of ink inlet openings, each set receiving an ink of a particular color to be supplied to the printhead ~~chip~~ chips, the assembly comprising

an elongate carrier having a printhead side, ~~that is engageable with the printhead and~~
an opposed ink supply side, ~~and defining an elongate recess on the printhead side~~
dimensioned to receive the printhead chips end-to-end, feed openings to be in fluid communication with respective ink inlet openings of the printhead ~~chips~~, ~~the ink supply side~~
~~defining a number of discrete feed formations, each feed formation being configured to~~
~~receive ink of a particular color and to be in fluid communication with the, or each, inlet~~
~~opening of a upstream of, and in fluid communication with respective set, via a number sets~~
of the feed openings, and the printhead side defining at least one ~~discrete of the feed~~
~~formation that extends through the carrier to be~~ formations in fluid communication with the,
~~or each, inlet opening openings of a further respective one set, via a further number of the~~
~~feed openings, from the printhead side to the ink supply side through the carrier, and ink~~
~~supply passages interconnecting the feed formations and respective feed openings, the ink~~
supply passages converging laterally towards the recess; and

a cover assembly that is engageable with the carrier, the cover assembly being configured to enclose the feed formations, ~~and the cover assembly being further configured so that the cover assembly and the ink supply side of the carrier define ink pathways that are in fluid communication with respective feed formations, one of the carrier and the cover assembly defining ink supply openings in fluid communication with respective ink pathways~~
feed formations.

2. (Original) An ink distribution assembly as claimed in claim 1, in which ~~at least~~ the carrier is a product of an injection molding process.

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3. (Original)An ink distribution assembly as claimed in claim 2, in which at least the carrier is of a plastics material.
4. (Previously presented)An ink distribution assembly as claimed in claim 1, in which the carrier has a generally planar central portion and a pair of opposed sidewall portions so that the central portion and the sidewall portions define a region that engages the cover assembly.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently amended)An ink distribution assembly as claimed in claim 7 1, in which the carrier defines three sets of feed openings, each set of feed openings corresponding with a set of ink inlet openings of the printhead so that three differently colored inks can be supplied to the printhead.
9. (Currently amended)An ink distribution assembly as claimed in claim 8, in which the printhead side of the carrier defines a pair of ~~ink supply~~ the feed formations in the form of ink supply channels, one on each side of the longitudinal recess.
10. (Currently amended)An ink distribution assembly as claimed in claim 9, in which a pair of longitudinally extending walls are positioned on the carrier to define a longitudinally extending channel in which one set of the feed openings are positioned, a row of spaced, laterally extending walls being positioned on each side of the longitudinally extending walls, so that the laterally extending walls define rows of the ink ~~feed channels~~ supply passages terminating at the longitudinally extending walls, a feed opening being positioned in each of the ink ~~feed channels~~ supply passages at the longitudinally extending walls, each lateral wall defining a passage from one of the ink supply channels on the printhead side of the carrier to the longitudinally extending channel.

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11. (Currently amended)An ink distribution assembly as claimed in claim 9, in which the carrier defines a pair of ink supply passages extend through the carrier, one in fluid communication with upstream of each ink supply channel, one of the ink pathways extending between one of the ink supply openings and the ink supply channels and downstream of a respective ink supply opening.

12. (Currently amended)An ink distribution assembly as claimed in claim 10, in which the side wall portions and the cover assembly are shaped so that an ink flow pathway one feed formation is defined between the cover assembly and each of the side wall portions, each ink flow pathway being in fluid communication with a respective row of ink feed channels.

13. (Cancelled)

14 (Currently amended)A page width printing device, which comprises
a page width ink jet printhead in the form of at least one a number of elongate printhead chip chips having sets of ink inlet openings, each set receiving an ink of a particular color to be supplied to the printhead chip chips;
an elongate carrier having a printhead side that is engageable with the printhead and, an opposed ink supply side, and defining an elongate recess on the printhead side dimensioned to receive the printhead chips end-to-end, feed openings to be in fluid communication with respective ink inlet openings of the printhead chips, the ink supply side defining a number of discrete feed formations, each feed formation being configured to receive ink of a particular color and to be in fluid communication with the, or each, inlet opening of a upstream of, and in fluid communication with, respective set, via a number sets of the feed openings, and the printhead side defining at least one discrete of the feed formation that extends through the carrier to be formations in fluid communication with the, or each, inlet opening openings of a further respective one set, via a further number of the feed openings, from the printhead side to the ink supply side through the carrier, and ink flow passages interconnecting the feed formations and respective feed openings, the ink flow passages converging laterally towards the recess; and

a cover assembly that is engageable with the carrier, the cover assembly being configured to enclose the feed formations, and the cover assembly being further configured so that the cover assembly and the ink supply side of the carrier define ink pathways that are

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~~in fluid communication with respective feed formations,~~ one of the carrier and the cover
assembly defining ink supply openings in fluid communication with respective ~~ink pathways~~
feed formations.